(c) Does not arise. The ambient air in respect of Sulpher-dioxide and other pollutants, as well as the meteriological data around the Taj Mahal is continuously being monitored and remedial measures are undertaken as required.

Impact of Sino-Soviet relations on the Indian-sub continent

1852. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of China and USSR pledged to re-establish relations on the basis of Panchsheel and mutual coexistence during the latter's visit to China in the middle of May;

(b) if so, what according to Government's information, have been the development in Sino-Soviet relations following the said visit; and

(c) what is Government's assessment about the impact thereof on the establishment of peace in the Indian Sub-Continent?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (c) During the visit of Soviet President Gorbachev to China from May 15-18, 1989, it was stated that the People's Republic of China and the USSR would develop their relations on the basis of the universal principles guiding State to State relations. The two sides agreed that the visit symbolised normalisation of relations between the two countries. Both sides considered it important to have contacts and dialogues between the leaders of the two countries. Recently, Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun visited the Soviet Union in connection with a meeting of the Sino-Soviet Joint Economic Commission.

Government welcome the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations and hope that this process will contribute to peace and stability in Asia and the world.

Repatriation of Indian Nationals from Singapore

1853. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 77 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th July, 1989 and state:

(a) the number of Indian Nationals who had over-stayed in Singapore, as on April 1, 1989, and the reasons for their over-stay according to Government's information; and

(b) how many of them have since been repatriated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) According to available information, there were 1840 Indian overstayers in Singapore on April 1, 1989. The primary reason for overstay of these Indian nationals was that they had illegally secured jobs.

(b) 1806 Indian nationals have been repatriated to India since April 1, 1989.

Proposal to convert Madurai metre gauge division into broad-gauge division

1854. SHRI PASUMPONTHA KIRUTTINAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many metre-gauge divisions are functioning in the country; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to convert Madurai metre-gauge division in Tamil Nadu into broad-gauge Railway division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Seven divisions having exclusively Metre Gauge lines and nineteen divisions having both

Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge lines are functioning on Indian Railways.

(b) On Madurai Division, work is in progress on Dindigul-Madurai (64 km) parallel Broad Gauge line project and thereafter work on Madurai-Maniyachhi (127 km) gauge conversion projects will be taken in hand. Both these projects are part of the Karur-Dindigul-Madurai-ManiyachhiTuticorin (327 km) Broad Gauge line project.

Pakistan's threat to denuclearisation

1855. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a new study 'Janes Strategic Weapons Systems' published from London, as reported in the Hindustan Times of May 10, 1989 under the caption "Study: Pak threat to denuclearisation"; and

(b) if so, what is Government's assessment about the Pakistani and Israeli threat to the process of denuclearisation, in view of the fact that these two countries which are outside the NATO and Warsaw Pacts possess both ballistic missiles and nuclear technology?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The nuclear and missile programmes of both Pakistan and Israel, dedicated to weapons development, is a matter of deep concern to Government which is closely following development in this regard.

Setting up of new regional offices of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

1856. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA:
PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some new regional offices of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan are being set up soon; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof indicating their jurisdiction and headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) No such decision has been taken so far.

Appointment of T.G.T. by K.V.S

1857. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that applications for a large number of posts of Trained Graduate Teachers had been invited by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan at the end of the last year/beginning of the current year;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not holding interviews for these posts while interviews for the posts of PGTs advertised alongwith these have already been concluded;

(c) whether the delay has adversely affected teaching work of the Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(d) if so, by when the interviews are likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Interviews for the posts of Post Graduate Teachers are still continuing. Those for Trained Graduate Teachers would be conducted by Regional Offices shortly.

No such report has been received. However, Principals of the Schools make appropiate arrangements to ensure that teaching in schools is carried on satisfactorily.